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### Academic Resources on Campus

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# ACADEMIC RESOURCES ON CAMPUS

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COR101

## WHY I CHOSE TO CREATE A LESSON ABOUT ACADEMIC RESOURCES:

- The topic I chose to present was “Academic Resources on Campus”. I chose this topic because I have personal experiences with how much these resources can help you succeed. I wanted to teach my first-year students about these resources so that they can use them to their advantage early on in college.
- I believe in SUNY Cortland’s academic resources leading to success in classes and that is why I choose to use them. As stated on Cortland’s website, “Our faculty members not only love to teach, they eagerly collaborate with you on research projects and activities in the community, across campus and around the world as you contribute to your chosen professional discipline and discover what holds meaning for you. These outstanding professionals use technology resources to help you gain a solid base of knowledge as you improve your skills” (SUNY Cortland Academic Resources, 2022).
- I chose to do a Kahoot at the end of my presentation because competition tends to get the class engaged. “Competition” can come off as bad to some people when being used in the classroom, but I find it to be beneficial when it is all in good fun. A journal article discussed the results of a teacher’s experiment with competition in the classroom stating, “The competition that took place between friends was good-natured, beneficial, constructive and cooperative... students brought their individual strengths to each group and each problem” (Olitsky,, 2011).
- The overall goal of my presentation was to inform students about the various academic resources on campus and encourage students to use them. I know how stressed people can be when they are worried about their grades, and I wanted to make them aware of some ways they can use these resources to stay on top of their classes and not fall behind.

# METHODS USED TO ENGAGE THE CLASS

## Materials and Activities used:

- A worksheet to begin the class and see what they knew about my topic before I taught my lesson.
- A PowerPoint presentation containing key information about the academic resources on campus such as what they help with and where they are located.
- Opened the floor for students to ask any other questions they had that they would like me to answer.
- Ended the class with a fun game of Kahoot (which contained the same questions as the worksheet that I handed out at the beginning of class). This allowed me to gather results on how effective my presentation was by seeing if the students answered more questions correctly on the Kahoot, after I presented.

# WORKSHEET COMPLETED IN CLASS

## ACADEMIC RESOURCES

*Read each question and write the letter of the correct answer on the Answer Line*

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ There is a section in the student tab on myRedDragon labeled academic resources.  
a. True b. False

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ Where do you access the Library OneSearch resource?  
a. Blackboard b. MyRedDragon c. At the library d. Google

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ Where is the Writing Center located?  
a. Van Hoesen b. The library c. The Student Life Center d. Brockway Hall

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ Where is the Learning Center located?  
a. The library b. Neubig Hall c. Van Hoesen Hall d. Sperry Center

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ Which of the following tutoring options are provided by the Learning Center?  
a. Peer-led tutoring b. NightOwl c. Professional Tutoring d. All of the above

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ You can find Advisement and Transition on the first floor of the library.  
a. True b. False

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ The Writing Center is used only to review final drafts of your writing assignments.  
a. True b. False

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ The writing center can assist you with each of the following EXCEPT:  
a. Structure and organization b. Brainstorming c. Revision d. Answering the prompt for you

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ can best help assist you in transfer credits, choosing a major, and academic planning.  
a. Your advisor b. Advisement and Transition c. Your professors d. Career Services

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ can be used to find sources that are helpful for assignments and papers.  
a. The Learning Center b. Career Services c. Tutoring d. Library OneSearch

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ What is a good resource to access on the Cortland website to find helpful tips for studying?  
a. The Study Place b. The Writing Center c. Blackboard d. Career Services

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_ Under what resource will you find helpful tabs like "The Study Place"?  
a. Advisement and Transition b. College Catalog c. Brightspace d. The Learning Center

## ACTIVE LEARNING TECHNIQUES USED

- By handing out a worksheet prior to my presentation, I could tell that many of the students were frustrated and did not know many of the answers. I believe that after they realized how little they knew about the academic resources on campus, they were more interested in my presentation.
- I asked the class how many of them had visited academic resources such as the Writing Center and the Learning Center and very few of them had. I then told them my personal experience about how I did not use these resources my first year either, but I wish I would have known how beneficial they can be to you. Now, I visit the writing center for almost every writing assignment I have.
- After my presentation, I wanted to include a little friendly competition to get the class engaged. I created a fun game of Kahoot for the students to take at the end of class. The students loved it. They were very engaged and wanted to win. Also, nearly all of them got more questions correct on the Kahoot than they did on the opening worksheet.

## RESULTS FROM WORKSHEET/ KAHOOT QUESTIONS

- I thought a pre-quiz and a post-quiz Kahoot would be the best way for me to measure the effectiveness of my presentation. “While pretests help educators tailor curriculum on the front-end, posttests help educators see where changes need to be made to improve students’ ability to comprehend and retain the material in the future. And comparing pre- and posttest scores lets educators drill down into specific areas of improvement” (Hornbuckle, 2022). Not only did doing a “pre and post test” help me understand how beneficial my presentation was, but it also made the students more interested in my presentation because they wanted to learn. “Pretesting makes students more aware of the types of questions they need to answer and the key concepts and facts they should pay attention to during the course” (Hornbuckle, 2022). If I were to teach a class again some day, I would certainly consider using something like a pre and post quiz again.
- The results of the pre-quiz showed that the class average was a 66%. The class average on the Kahoot given at the end of class was an 80%. This shows a very good improvement and that many students learned from my presentation and got a lot more answers correct on the post-quiz. At the end of my Kahoot, I included true or false questions like “I now have a better knowledge of where these resources are located” and “I will be more likely to use these resources after this presentation”. 85% of the class answered true. I was very happy with these results, especially the last two questions, because it proved that my presentation was a success.

# FINAL REFLECTION

- The improvement in the number of questions answered correctly on the Kahoot at the end made me feel good because it proved that the students learned from my presentation. I felt like the class's engagement during my presentation got better and better as it went on. They weren't thrilled to be taking a "pre-test" in the beginning on something that they knew very little about, but by the end of my presentation they were asking questions and competing with one another in a game of Kahoot.
- I am glad that I chose this topic because I really do believe that our academic resources can be super helpful to students as they continue college. I wish I used the resources on campus earlier, as I did not start using them until about my spring semester of sophomore year. After presenting my topic, I feel like I provided my first-year students with some knowledge about resources they will have access to for the next four years and may have influenced some of the students to make use of the resources.
- Overall, I was surprised by the success of my presentation. I do not typically teach others or speak in front of large groups very often. Although I am a business major and not an education major, I still enjoyed teaching and improving my confidence and public speaking skills. I proved to myself that I can grasp others attention and help them learn something useful!



# CITATIONS

- “Academics.” *Academic Programs - SUNY Cortland*, <https://www2.cortland.edu/academics/>.
- Hornbuckle, Molly. “Why Pretests and Posttests in Education Matter.” *YouScience*, 25 Jan. 2022, <https://www.youscience.com/pretest-and-posttest-in-education/>.
- Olitsky, Stacy. “The Role of Fictive Kinship Relationships in Mediating Classroom Competition and Supporting Reciprocal Mentoring.” *Cultural Studies of Science Education*, vol. 6, no. 4, 2011, pp. 883–894., <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11422-011-9363-1>.